

memory is described. This Bauman system required significant processing cycle time for discovering whether data was locked, if the data was owned by remote processors in Bauman's system. The instant invention overcomes this significant limitation.

5 Other systems for providing locks over data in multiprocessor systems having first
and second level caches are described in U.S. Patent Nos. 6,006,299 issued to Wang et
al, and 5,175,837 issued to Arnold et al, both of which are also incorporated herein by this
reference. Arnold provides a lock directory in a single system controller unit (SCU) which
handles the entire main memory but in granularity like that of the "CPU cache block" as
opposed to providing a single lock bit for each location in the main memory. The directory
10 in the SCU of Arnold is defined by a plurality of lock bits a particular one of which is
interrogated to determine if a lock request should be granted, and which notifies a

REMARKS

Through inadvertence related cases were not mentioned. This Preliminary
Amendment is introduced to correct this oversight.

Respectfully submitted,

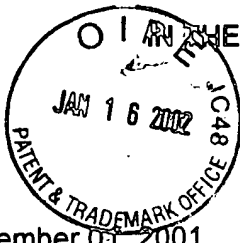


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Title: METHOD FOR PROCESSING COMMUNAL LOCKS
Attorney Docket No. RA-5415

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AND
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment and Information Disclosure Statement for this application.

Respectfully submitted,

11/01/2001

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